

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 043452

62

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:LRMURRAY:PAW

APPROVED BY NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL

NEA/RA:COL. HOBBS

S/S-O:LMACFARLANE

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R 240129Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

S E C R E T STATE 043452

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS, FOR AMBASSADOR FROM MURRAY

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, TS

SUBJECT: CHAPARRAL SALE TO TUNISIA

IN LUNCHEON CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR HEDDA FEBRUARY 22,
HE STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT TUNISIA HAD DECIDED AGAINST
CHAPARRAL SYSTEM. REASON FOR THIS DECISION HE SAID WAS
NOT BECAUSE OF PRICE, BUT BECAUSE OF SYSTEM'S LIMITED
CAPABILITIES. CHAPARRAL DOES NOT MEET GOT'S DEFENSE NEEDS,
AND THIS FACT IS RECOGNIZED BY LIBYA WHICH IS TUNISIA'S
MAJOR CONCERN AT THE MOMENT. AMBASSADOR'S STATEMENT WAS
IN RESPONSE TO DIRECT QUESTION, AND NOT INTENDED AS OFFICIAL
RESPONSE TO RECENT VISIT CHAPARRAL BRIEFING TEAM.
ACCORDING TO HEDDA, MINISTER OF DEFENSE TOLD HIM OF GOT
DECISION DURING AMBASSADOR'S CONSULTATION TRIP IN TUNIS
LAST WEEK. INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: MASS, TS
To: TUNIS
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